

The lumber industry, typified by this mill in Oregon, has now moved largely from the Great Lakes region to the Pacific Northwest. Today, conservation-minded companies no longer log trees indiscriminately, but "tree farm" the forests to preserve what once seemed an endless supply.



small groups became virtually "lost" in Appalachian valleys. Living in the backwash of western migration, and isolated from contact with the mainstream of America, these people became the "hillbillies" of the modern era.

As we have seen, the Ohio and Great Lakes country was the scene of many speculative ventures. Free land for veterans and cheap land offered by land companies encouraged migration westward. Here planned communities, such as Marietta on the Ohio, were to absorb westward migrants and build a base for the urban centers that were to develop.

Significant in this migration were young people leaving New England for greater opportunities. The marginal agricultural conditions of New England, with its limited flatlands, short growing season, and severe winter, restricted opportunity in agriculture for the young. In the case of many, migration was forced upon them.

The lure of the factory, timber, and minerals

A second alternative to New England youth was provided by industrial growth. The mill

of the region started with the mining of copper on the Keweenaw Peninsula in 1844 and iron at Marquette in 1846.

The rapids connecting Lake Superior and Lake Huron effectively blocked movements of ore by ship through these hazards. The costly problem of unloading ore on one end of the rapids and transporting it to the other end for shipment was overcome in the 1850's by the construction of the first Soo Canal through this navigational hazard. By 1857 a railroad connected the mines with Marquette on the shores of Lake Superior.

Further stimulation to mining and steel-making was furnished by the Civil War and its demands for armaments, steel rails, and other manufactured goods. Improved transportation and the demands of war made possible the construction needed for steelmaking in the vicinity of Marquette. By 1860 ten blast furnaces were operating in the country, and more were on the way.

The exploitation of the vast timber resources of the region went hand in hand with mining in regional development. The seemingly inexhaustible timber of the New